

# VANUATU NATIONAL PLASTICS STRATEGY (2020-2030)

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DRAFT FOR COMMENT (31/01/2020)

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AfD	Agence Française de Développement
ALDFG	Abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear
CCOA	Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance
CDS/L	Container Deposit System/Legislation
Cefas	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
CLiP	Commonwealth Litter Programme
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DFID	Department for International Development
EFT	Equivalent full-time
EOI	Expression of interest
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
GGGI	Global Ghost Gear Initiative
GPA	Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
GPML	Global Partnership on Marine Litter
HS	Harmonised System
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MARPOL	The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
PET	Polyethylene terephthalate
PICs	Pacific Island Countries
POLP	Pacific Oceans Litter Project
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
TA	Technical Assistance
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UN	United Nations

## FOREWORD FROM THE MINISTER

[To be provided]

**Hon. Ralph Regenvanu**

Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade  
Government of the Republic of Vanuatu

## FOREWORD FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

[To be provided]

**HE Karen Bell**

British High Commissioner to the Republic of Vanuatu

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 THE GLOBAL PLASTICS PROBLEM

Plastics are an extremely versatile and useful material that are lightweight, cheap, and easy to manufacture. These qualities have contributed to the proliferation of plastic products – and plastic waste – in every part of the world.

An estimated 8,300 million metric tonnes of virgin plastics were produced between 1950 and 2015 resulting in the generation of 6,300 million metric tonnes of plastic waste.<sup>1</sup> Of this total, 12% is estimated to have been incinerated and only 9% recycled. This means approximately 4,900 million metric tonnes – 60% of all plastic ever produced – has been discarded and is accumulating in landfills or in the natural environment.<sup>2</sup>

The resistance of plastics to safe decomposition, combined with widespread poor waste management practices and rising worldwide production, has resulted in the mass accumulation of plastic waste on land, in waterways and oceans, and increasingly in the food chain.

Globally, an estimated 12 million tonnes of plastics reach our oceans each year.<sup>3</sup>

Macroplastics are plastic items that are clearly visible to the naked eye. Macroplastic pollution in the ocean directly harms marine life through ingestion and entanglement. Microplastics are small plastic particles with a diameter of between 1-5 millimetres. Microplastics contaminate seafood and transfer toxins up the food chain which impacts on both ecosystem and human health.

Even some types of plastic that are promoted as being ‘environmentally friendly’ can cause harm to the environment. For example, oxo-degradable plastics have special additives that make them quickly break down into small plastic fragments which then contaminate the environment.<sup>4</sup>

Plastics in the ocean and on land tarnish the aesthetic value of oceans and beaches, which in turn affects tourism, business and land value. In addition to the environmental, health and economic costs of plastic marine litter there are also costs to psychological well-being, as the presence of marine litter has been shown to erode our sense of connectedness to the ocean and coastal areas and negatively impacts on community and national pride.<sup>5</sup>

	MACROPLASTICS	MICROPLASTICS
DEFINITION	Plastic items that are clearly visible to the naked eye.	Small plastic particles with a diameter of between 1–5 millimetres.
SOURCES	<p>The most common macroplastic marine litter types are single use plastic products, plastic packaging and nylon from ropes and fishing nets.</p> <p>Macroplastic marine litter is caused by illegal disposal (on land, in waterways and at sea), littering and poorly managed waste collection and containment.</p>	<p>Primary microplastics, such as microbeads, are intentionally added to some cosmetics and personal care products.</p> <p>Secondary microplastics are generated from the breakdown of larger plastic items.</p>
IMPACTS	Macroplastics block waterways, degrade landscapes and choke, injure and suffocate wildlife. This results in enormous economic and environmental damage.	Microplastics are ingested by aquatic species, resulting in plastic and chemical contamination of the food chain.

Figure 1. Sources and impacts of plastic wastes.



## 1.2 PLASTIC POLLUTION AND USAGE IN VANUATU

There is no place on earth that is remote enough to escape from the plastic waste pandemic. The same ocean that connects the people of Vanuatu, defines Kastom, and generates livelihoods has become a vessel for the accumulation of plastic waste.

Some of this plastic waste travels the ocean currents from far away, but much of it arises from our own consumption patterns, improper waste management, and dumping and littering behaviours. In 2019, Vanuatu generated an estimated 5,700 tonnes of plastic waste, almost all of which was derived from imported plastic consumer products.<sup>2</sup> Of this, an estimated 40% was collected and sent to landfill and 60% was burned, buried, dumped or lost to the environment.



Figure 2. Annual plastic waste generation in Vanuatu, 2019. Data source: *National Review of Plastic Pollution in Vanuatu*.<sup>2</sup>

Plastic pollution in Vanuatu is widespread and is already having ecological consequences. Studies conducted in 2018 by the Commonwealth Litter Programme (CLiP) found that plastic waste accounts for 75% of the most common types of marine litter found on Vanuatu beaches, and that 38% of reef fish, 60% of pelagic fish and 50% of crabs in Vanuatu had ingested microplastics.<sup>6</sup> This is a phenomenon that is being found throughout the Pacific islands and the world.

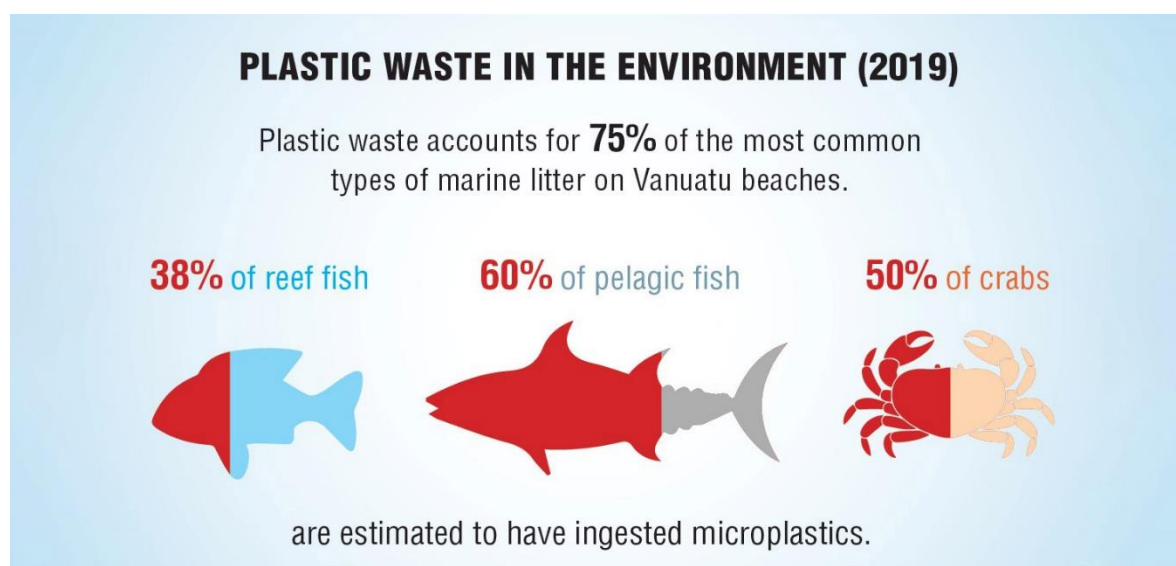


Figure 3. Plastic waste in the Vanuatu environment, 2019. Data source: *Vanuatu Waste Data Report*.<sup>6</sup>

### 1.3 LESSONS LEARNED FROM VANUATU'S ACTION ON PLASTICS

Vanuatu is widely considered a global pioneer in tackling the challenge of plastic pollution in the marine environment.

Since July 2018, national bans have been introduced on the importation and local manufacture of targeted plastic products including single-use shopping bags, polystyrene food containers, plastic straws, plastic cutlery, plastic cups, plastic drink stirrers and plastic mesh food netting. These bans have proven to be highly successful in significantly reducing, and in some cases eliminating, banned items from the waste stream.<sup>7</sup> This is demonstrated by the fact that no banned plastic items appear in the top ten list of identifiable plastic marine litter items in Vanuatu<sup>7</sup>, and that the plastic marine litter profile in Vanuatu now varies notably from global norms (see Figure 4).

Furthermore, communities and businesses across Vanuatu have risen to the challenge. Community consultations conducted in three provinces of Vanuatu in 2019 showed very high (100%) support for Government action on plastic, and all respondents indicated that they had noticed a reduction in the amount of visible plastic litter in the environment since the introduction of bans.<sup>7</sup>

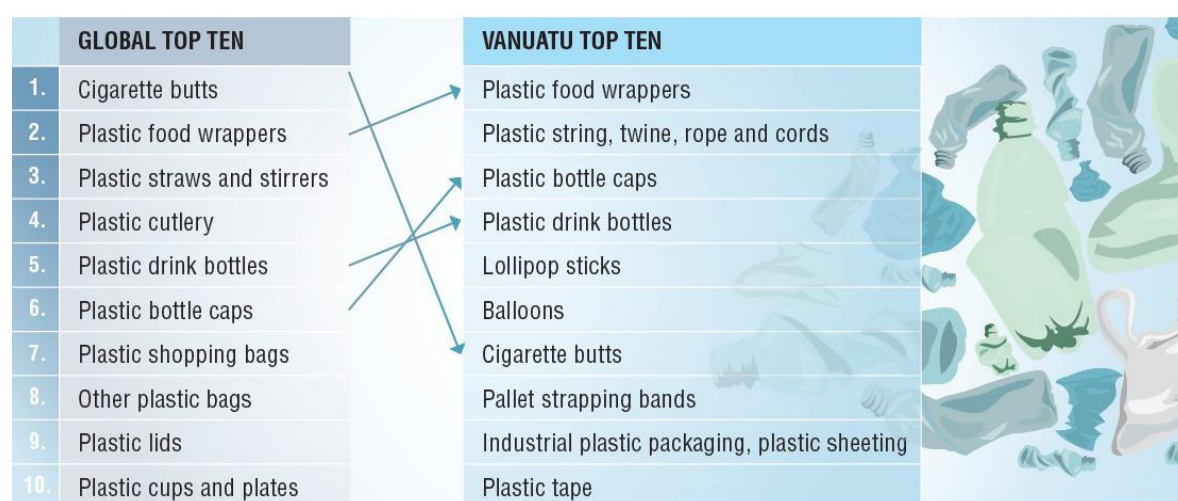
Whilst acknowledging the success of, and support for, action on plastics to date, some important lessons have been learned:

**Consultation:** Bans and restrictions on products and processes can have negative impacts on livelihoods and profitability and require changes in thinking and behaviour. Therefore, ongoing consultation is crucial to minimise disruption – but without compromising on the urgent need to protect the environment for future generations.

**Partnership:** Vanuatu's vision of zero plastic pollution cannot be achieved without the support and engagement of businesses, communities and all areas of government. It is particularly important for businesses and government to work together as partners in plastic reduction. This will ensure that businesses can optimise their business models and procurement processes to benefit from plastic reduction actions.

**Communication:** Clear communication planning is important to ensure that individuals, businesses and communities understand the rationale for national action on plastics. This will help to prevent new single-use plastic products from entering into circulation.

These lessons learned have helped to inform the development of the *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020-2030)* and have been incorporated into its strategic actions.



**Figure 4. Top ten identifiable plastic beach litter items globally and in Vanuatu, 2019.** Data sources: *International Coastal Clean-up 2019 Report*<sup>8</sup> and *Plastic Usage in Vanuatu – Current Situation, Viable Alternatives and Pilot Approaches*.<sup>7</sup>

## 2 RATIONALE

### 2.1 APPROACHES TO PLASTIC REDUCTION

The sheer scale of the global plastics problem demonstrates that conventional waste management approaches – that tend to consider plastic waste as an inevitability, and then seek to tailor waste management services accordingly – simply cannot manage the challenge presented by plastics.

This is particularly evident in countries such as Vanuatu, where the total volume of plastic waste generated is large enough to have significant environmental and human health consequences, but too small to employ high-tech applications such as waste-to-energy, pyrolysis or plastic-to-fuel approaches. Additionally, collecting plastic wastes for recycling and export is hampered by the long distances between islands, the high cost of transporting wastes, and the low economic value of plastics.

To meet the plastic waste challenge, in Vanuatu and across the world, new ways of thinking are required.

Circular economy approaches to managing wastes, including plastics, have gained traction in recent years. Instead of considering the mass accumulation of plastic waste as an inevitable consequence of life, circular economy waste management approaches seek to alter the volumes and characteristics of the waste being generated in the first place, and to 'close the loop' by keeping products in use for as long as possible and designing out waste as a by-product.<sup>4</sup>

Seminal documents that have helped to inform circular action on plastics include the *EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy*<sup>9</sup> and the *EU Strategy for Plastics in the Circular Economy*<sup>10</sup>. Both documents examine the sustainable management of plastic products through a lens that includes product design, production and distribution, consumer actions, reduce/repair and recycling.

To date, the only national strategic frameworks developed specifically for plastics have been developed in Europe<sup>10,11</sup> and Canada,<sup>12</sup> and these have a heavy emphasis on manufacture, distribution and recycling and a cradle-to-cradle approach. Given that Vanuatu does not have a plastic manufacturing sector, and that small waste volumes pose challenges for recycling, there is a clear need for a new approach to plastic reduction that embraces circular economy principles in a manner which is relevant to Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

### 2.2 CLOSING THE LOOP ON PLASTICS IN VANUATU

The *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020-2030)* – the first of its kind for the Pacific region – proposes a new approach to the reduction of plastic pollution that utilises relevant circular economy principles, tailored specifically to the Vanuatu context.

It recognises the need for new ways of thinking in order to combat plastic pollution. In doing so, it focuses on reduction strategies to rationalise the importation of plastic products into Vanuatu, prevent the leakage of plastics into the environment, and harness community and business support to shift to sustainable consumption patterns and behaviours.

The strategy has been developed following twelve months of formal consultation with government, NGO, private sector, and community stakeholders across Vanuatu.

The outcomes of these consultations have illuminated a clear path forward and have helped to crystallise a vision shared by the people of Vanuatu. And that vision is for our lands, waters and oceans to be free from plastic pollution. The *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020-2030)* puts forth a road map for how this vision can be achieved, and does so in a way that values and preserves traditional knowledge, empowers communities, and stimulates the local economy.

### 3 VANUATU NATIONAL PLASTICS STRATEGY (2020-2030)

#### 3.1 VISION AND MISSION

<b>VISION</b>	For the lands, waters and oceans of Vanuatu to be free from plastic pollution.
<b>MISSION</b>	To become the first nation in the world to eliminate avoidable single-use plastics.

#### 3.2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLE	DESCRIPTION
<b>Circularity</b>	Actions will support the development of circular economy thinking and practice.
<b>Sound and socially conscious decision-making</b>	Decisions will be based on the best available traditional and scientific information and will consider the potential impact of actions on all communities of Vanuatu.
<b>Communication, public consultation and participation</b>	Communication, public consultation and participation – enabling informed input and enhancing understanding – will be integrated into planning and decision-making.
<b>Product stewardship</b>	Those involved in producing, importing, selling, using and disposing of products should ensure that such products are managed throughout their lifecycle in a way that minimises impact on human and environmental health.
<b>Polluter-pays</b>	The costs of pollution or damage to the environment should be paid by the responsible party.
<b>Transparency and accountability</b>	Processes used to make decisions will be easily understood by the public and will allow communities to see how decisions are made and how resources have been allocated.
<b>Precautionary approach</b>	If an activity could potentially cause severe or irreversible harm to human health or the environment, action will be taken to avoid or diminish that harm, even in the absence of scientific consensus.
<b>Sustainability</b>	Interventions will consciously target long-term sustainability in terms of community engagement, value obtained as well as in terms of the environmental and health benefits gained.
<b>Affordability</b>	Actions outlined in the strategy must be able to be implemented with the resources available, or supported by funding where necessary.






### 3.3 DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION AND EXAMPLES
<b>Single-use plastics</b>	<p>Single-use plastics are products made of, containing, or packaged in plastic that are designed to be used only once.</p> <p>Examples include: cotton buds, plastic straws, plastic drink stirrers, plastic cutlery, polystyrene food containers, most processed food packaging, produce wrapped in plastic twine or plastic film, plastic netting, sweet wrappers, miniature bottles of shampoo or conditioner, miniature tubes of toothpaste, ice-blocks that come in throwaway plastic wrappers or tubes, and small plastic drink containers that are designed for consumption in a single sitting.</p>
<b>Avoidable single-use plastics</b>	Single-use plastics that are non-essential or sustainably replaceable, and which can be removed from circulation without negatively impacting on human health or wellbeing.
<b>Tragic plastics</b>	Tragic plastics are a sub-set of single-use plastics and comprise flexible plastic food packaging such as biscuit packets, lolly wrappers, chip wrappers and noodle packets. This waste type is considered 'tragic' because it is a dominant source of terrestrial and marine litter, but hard to regulate in that its use ensures that products are kept fresh, contained and/or uncontaminated.
<b>Mobility plastics</b>	Mobility plastics are another sub-set of single-use plastics and may also include tragic plastics. Mobility plastics are associated with being 'on the move', that is they are consumed or used outside of the home environment, and therefore have a higher chance of being improperly disposed of.
<b>Junk food</b>	Processed foods high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars or salt and with low nutritional value
<b>Medium-use plastics<sup>13</sup></b>	Medium-use plastic are products made of, containing, or packaged in plastic that are used for up to two years. In most cases they comprise a plastic vessel that contains another product. Examples include: large format personal care products (such as shampoo and conditioner), large drink bottles, dishwashing liquids, oils, sauces, plastic toys, toothbrushes, plastic razors, and plastic combs.
<b>Primary microplastics</b>	Any solid plastic particle that has a diameter of between 1-5 millimetres which is intentionally added to a manufactured product.
<b>Rinse-off personal care products</b>	Products used to cleanse or protect the human body, or part of the human body, including soap, hand wash, body wash, shampoo and conditioner, toothpaste and sunscreen.
<b>Oxo-degradable plastics</b>	Conventional plastics which include additives to accelerate the fragmentation of the material into very small pieces, triggered by UV radiation or heat exposure. <sup>14</sup>

### 3.4 TACTICS

The *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020-2030)* articulates five key tactics for closing the loop on plastics in Vanuatu: legal instruments; economic instruments; waste management system improvements, voluntary actions and agreements; and education and awareness. Each of these tactics is outlined in more detail below.

**Table 1. Tactics, impact and target waste types.**

TACTIC	DESCRIPTION AND IMPACT	TARGET WASTE TYPES
 <p>LEGAL INSTRUMENTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct regulation of certain plastic products (bans).</li> <li>• Prevents plastic items from entering the waste stream.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoidable single-use plastics.</li> <li>• Primary microplastics.</li> <li>• Oxo-degradable plastics.</li> </ul>
 <p>ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial disincentives (such as taxes or levies on plastic products) and incentives (such as container deposit legislation).</li> <li>• Rewards or penalises individuals and businesses.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plastic-packaged junk food.</li> <li>• Medium-use plastics.</li> </ul>
 <p>WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements to waste containment, collection, transport, treatment and disposal.</li> <li>• Prevents plastic leakage into the marine and terrestrial environments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All plastic waste types, especially tragic plastic and mobility plastic.</li> </ul>
 <p>VOLUNTARY ACTIONS AND AGREEMENTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voluntary pledges made by consumers, suppliers, retailers and/or industry.</li> <li>• Encourages public and private sector participation in tackling plastic waste. Helps to drive a market for locally-produced bio-benign alternatives to plastic products.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All plastic waste types, particularly single-use plastics.</li> </ul>
 <p>EDUCATION AND AWARENESS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public information, education, promotional and advocacy activities.</li> <li>• Amplifies impact of all other levers and helps to modify waste-related norms and behaviours.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All plastic waste types.</li> </ul>



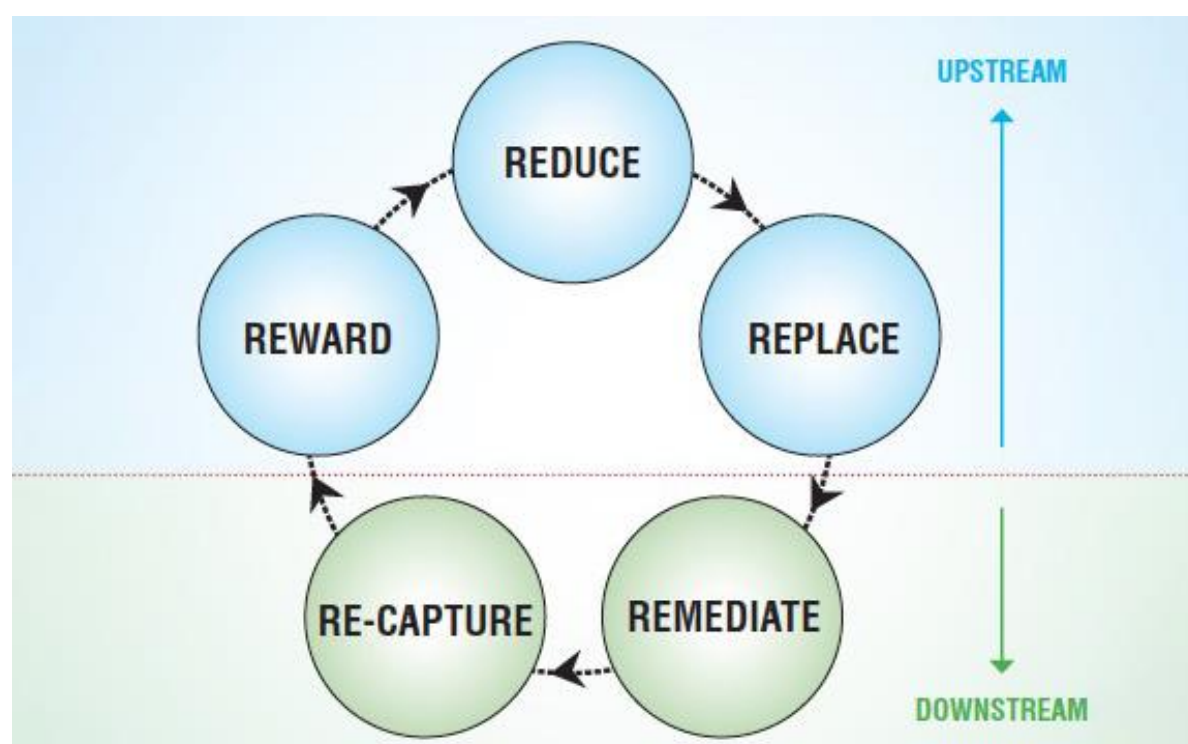
### 3.5 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020-2030)* centres around five key strategic goals which can be summarised as the Five Rs: Reduce; Replace; Remediate; Re-capture and Reward.



**Figure 5. Strategic goals.**

These strategic goals have been designed to address both the upstream and downstream factors that impact on plastic pollution. Upstream-oriented goals (Reduce, Replace and Reward) address factors which are either independent of waste generation or target activities prior to the point of importation. Downstream-oriented goals (Remediate and Re-capture) address factors that take place post-consumption and waste generation.



**Figure 6. The strategy in action.**

The five strategic goals are supported by a total of 24 strategic actions which are detailed in the following pages. Each strategic action is, in turn, supported by a range of activities. Detailed activities for each of the Strategic Actions are outlined in Costed Implementation Plan, attached as Annex A.

### 3.6 GOAL ONE: REDUCE

#### 1. REDUCE THE VOLUME OF PLASTIC ENTERING THE WASTE STREAM

Reduction strategies are essential to any action intended to close the loop on plastics. There are eight strategic actions associated with this goal, focusing on the reduction of the total volume of imported plastic, preventing plastic from becoming waste, and reducing the plastic waste generated in the tourism (cruise liner) and fishing sectors.

**Reducing imported plastic:** The overwhelming majority of plastic waste generated in Vanuatu is derived from imported plastic products.<sup>7</sup> Therefore, reducing the volume of plastic being imported into Vanuatu will have the effect of reducing the total volume of plastic waste generated. This will be achieved through the continued use of legal instruments (bans) on single-use plastic products, products containing primary microplastics, and oxo-degradable plastic which rapidly breaks down and disperses microplastics into the environment. Bans will be supported by economic interventions that will simultaneously disincentivise the importation of plastic-packaged junk food and incentivise the importation of consumer goods that are not packaged in plastic.

**Preventing plastic from becoming waste:** The collection of certain plastic types will be incentivised by extending the remit of Container Deposit Legislation to include plastic types other than Polyethylene terephthalate (PET). This will reduce the volume of such plastic types from entering the waste stream. Additionally, regulations around the quality and safety standards of imported plastic products will mean that plastic products available in Vanuatu have a longer life and do not leach harmful chemicals.

**Reducing plastic waste generated in the tourism (cruise liner) and fishing sectors:** Cruise liner and fishing activities are important contributors to both the economy and to volumes of plastic waste generated. As such, these two industries are specifically targeted for reduction in plastic usage.

**Table 2. Goal one strategic actions.**

GOAL ONE STRATEGIC ACTIONS	
1.1	Prevent single-use plastic products from entering Vanuatu through the continued introduction of bans on the importation, sale and manufacture of avoidable plastic products.
1.2	Discourage the importation of 'tragic plastic' by imposing a customs levy on plastic packaged junk food.
1.3	Encourage the importation of products that do not utilise plastic packaging by reducing tariffs on non-plastic packaged consumer items.
1.4	Incentivise the collection of waste plastics through expanding the remit of container deposit legislation to include additional plastic types.
1.5	Prevent the leakage of microplastics to the marine environment through the introduction of bans on consumer products containing primary microplastics and oxo-degradable plastics.
1.6	Reduce the use of single-use plastics by cruise liners and fishing vessels in Vanuatu waters through agreements for plastic free tourism and enhanced fisheries observer programs.
1.7	Reduce avoidable plastic waste by improving the quality and safety of imported plastic products.
1.8	Phase-out use of avoidable plastic fishing equipment including nets, ropes, traps, lines, fish aggregating devices and bait bags.



### 3.7 GOAL TWO: REPLACE

#### 2. REPLACE PLASTIC WITH LOCALLY PRODUCED ALTERNATIVES

When targeted plastic products are regulated through the use of legal or economic instruments it is natural for replacement products or solutions to emerge. To ensure that regulated single-use plastic items do not get replaced with other single-use plastic items, a product hierarchy has been developed (see Table 3).

As outlined in the product hierarchy, first choice alternatives for any regulated single-use plastic item should be locally made or produced, and made from non-plastic materials (or recycled plastic). While many locally-made non-plastic products may also be reusable, this characteristic cannot be considered essential for a first choice alternative due to the fact that some items, such as banana leaf plates or naturally sourced twine are generally single-use. First choice alternatives are not only good for plastic and waste reduction, but stimulate the local economy.

Where a first choice alternative is either not available or practical, a second choice alternative which has the characteristics of being non-plastic (or recycled plastic) and reusable, can be considered. Second choice alternatives are still sustainable and reduce overall waste, but they do not provide an economic stimulus for the local economy. Third choice alternatives are non-plastic (or recycled plastic) and single use, and last resort or fourth choice alternatives may well be plastic but would need to be re-useable.

Employing this hierarchy will create an enabling environment for the emergence of locally-produced bio-benign alternatives to plastic products.

**Table 3. Product hierarchy.**

CHARACTERISTICS	FIRST CHOICE	SECOND CHOICE	THIRD CHOICE	FOURTH CHOICE
Locally made or produced	✓			
Non-plastic or recycled plastic	✓	✓	✓	
Reusable		✓		✓
Single-use			✓	

In addition to the product hierarchy, three strategic actions have been developed to help support the development and emergence of local, sustainable enterprises.

**Table 4. Goal two strategic actions.**

GOAL TWO STRATEGIC ACTIONS	
2.1	Stimulate the local economy through the active promotion of locally-produced sustainable products that are either non-plastic or utilise reused plastic.
2.2	Support businesses in Vanuatu to transition to plastic-free or zero waste models.
2.3	Implement pilot projects that replace high-volume single-use plastics with locally produced alternatives.

### 3.8 GOAL THREE: REMEDIATE

#### 3. REMEDIATE THE LEAKAGE OF PLASTIC WASTE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT

While efforts can be made to reduce our use of, and reliance on, plastic products we must also concede that they will never be eliminated entirely. To close the loop on plastics we need to ensure that those plastic products that enter the waste stream are managed in such a way that leakage to the terrestrial and marine environments is minimised. These four strategic actions focus on waste management system improvements and the disruption of normative waste and consumption behaviours through education and awareness.

**Waste management system improvements:** Improvements to waste management systems include: efforts to ensure proper containment of plastic waste; effective and reliable waste collection and transport and sustainable and controlled waste disposal. Of particular importance to the Vanuatu context is the need to improve collection coverage across all provinces, particularly in rural and remote areas where waste collection coverage is low or absent and where dumping, burning and burial are reported as the most common means of waste disposal.

**Disrupting normative waste and consumption behaviours:** While many areas of Vanuatu display a reasonable level of awareness around littering and a self-consciousness around littering behaviours these can be improved through the development and implementation of national awareness and education campaigns. Public awareness campaigns around the issue of plastic waste have the added benefit of amplifying all other strategic actions.

Table 5. Goal three strategic actions.

GOAL THREE STRATEGIC ACTIONS	
3.1	Reduce the prevalence of dumping and burning through expanding national waste collection coverage and controlled disposal sites that includes domestic ports, wharves and shipping.
3.2	Make it easier not to litter, and prevent the dispersal of windblown plastic litter, through the installation and servicing of covered waste receptacles at identified hotspots.
3.3	Deter littering and dumping behaviours through the ongoing enforcement of fines and penalties.
3.4	Shift normative waste and consumption behaviours by increasing public awareness on the environmental and health impacts of improperly managed plastic waste.

### 3.9 GOAL FOUR: RE-CAPTURE

#### 4. RE-CAPTURE EXISTING PLASTIC WASTE IN THE ENVIRONMENT

While this strategy aims to prevent the loss of plastic waste in the environment, legacy stockpiles still remain and need to be re-captured. These five strategic actions focus on re-capturing plastic waste that has been lost to the environment and then implementing best-practice solutions for the management of such waste:

**Re-capturing plastic waste that has been lost to the environment:** Plastic waste that is ocean-bound will be captured through the utilisation of traps and booms and Extended Producer Responsibility approaches will be made to try to retrieve the problematic ‘tragic plastic’ waste type. Incentives will be introduced for the recovery of abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear – which poses a tremendous threat to marine life. Regular clean-up activities are an essential part of any long-term strategic approach for marine litter.

**Implementing best-practice solutions for the management of re-captured plastic waste:** Once retrieved, best-practice solutions will be trialled for controlled disposal, reuse and and/or recycling.

**Table 6. Goal four strategic actions.**

GOAL FOUR STRATEGIC ACTIONS	
4.1	Prevent ocean bound plastic waste in waterways and stormwater drains from entering the marine environment through the catchment management of plastics including installation of trash traps and booms at key ocean entry points.
4.2	Recover ocean plastics through implementing an Extended Producer Responsibility scheme focused on the retrieval of ocean plastics, with a focus on ‘tragic plastics’.
4.3	Implement best-practice solutions for the management of collected or recovered plastics including controlled disposal, reuse and recycling (including export).
4.4	Introduce incentives for recovery of abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) from the marine environment and shoreline.
4.5	Conduct regular clean-up activities.

### 3.10 GOAL FIVE: REWARD

#### 5. REWARD VOLUNTARY ACTION AND INNOVATION

Vanuatu's vision of zero plastic pollution cannot be achieved without the support and engagement all areas of government, businesses, and communities. This strategy employs the concept of voluntary agreements and actions as a crucial tactic for encouraging public sector, private sector and community participation in tackling plastic waste. Experience in other parts of the world has demonstrated that when the will to engage in voluntary agreements is strong, they can be as effective as legal instruments in affecting change.

**Harnessing engagement:** Incentives for public and private sector participation in tackling plastic pollution will be implemented and closely monitored. A key aspect of this will be a voluntary pledging campaign, and national awards for socio-circular innovation, to drive community and business participation.

**Demonstrating global leadership:** As a Pacific leader in the area of plastics reduction, the Government of Vanuatu will continue to advocate for global action, and share lessons learned from the application of this strategy.

**Table 7. Goal five strategic actions.**

GOAL FIVE STRATEGIC ACTIONS	
5.1	Develop and implement incentives to encourage public and private sector participation in tackling plastic pollution.
5.2	Ensure ongoing leadership and awareness on the management of plastic waste by continued engagement through global platforms and with international organisations, the business sector (including the cruise liner and tourism sector), NGOs and community.
5.3	Inspire and encourage national action by launching and maintaining a voluntary pledging campaign.
5.4	Reward voluntary action through establishing national awards for social circular principles/innovation.

### 3.11 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The following actions will be required to support monitoring, evaluation and implementation of the strategic goals.

**Table 8. Monitoring, evaluation and implementation actions.**

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION (MEI) ACTIONS	
MEI1	Establish appropriate implementation mechanisms at the national, provincial and community level.
MEI2	Establish a baseline volume of plastic products imported to Vanuatu through the creation of a plastics inventory / adoption of World Customs Organisation Harmonised System (HS) codes and improved descriptions for plastic imports.
MEI3	Identify current and emerging problem plastic items and monitor the progress of actions on plastic by conducting regular beach litter and other audits using a harmonised method (OSPAR) at representative locations across all provinces.
MEI4	Ensure that actions on plastic are incorporated into and aligned with national and provincial waste management plans.

### 3.12 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND TARGETS

The table below summarises suggested high-level performance indicators and targets for each of the five key strategic areas.

**Table 9. Performance indicators and targets.**

STRATEGIC AREA	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TARGETS
REDUCE	Volume of imported plastic products.	By 2030, the total volume of imported plastic products is reduced by 50%.
	Volume of imported, <i>avoidable</i> single-use plastic products.	By 2030, single-use plastic products that are designated as being <i>avoidable</i> are no longer imported to Vanuatu.
	Count/Percentage of banned plastics in household waste and marine litter.	The count/percentage of banned single use plastic products in household waste and beach litter reduces annually.
	Count/Percentage of total plastics in household waste and marine litter.	The count/percentage of total plastics in household waste and marine litter reduces annually.
REPLACE	Number of locally produced sustainable alternatives to plastic products on the market.	The total number of local alternatives to plastic products increases or is sustained annually.
	Number of industries/activities supported for transition from single use plastic to plastic free alternatives.	Three businesses are supported annually.
	Number of pilot projects on high risk single use plastics implemented.	By 2025, three pilot projects have been implemented.
REMEDiate	Waste collection coverage (% of population). Waste collection coverage refers to the percentage of households serviced by an urban (commercial) collection system and those covered by a village (informal) collection mechanism.	By 2030, waste collection coverage is increased to 100% (urban areas) and 70% nationally.
	Number of controlled waste disposal facilities	By 2025, every province has a controlled waste disposal facility and major centres on every island have a central disposal point.
	Number of appropriately serviced and covered public litter bins.	By 2025, 90% of public spaces and meeting locations have appropriately serviced public litter bins.
	Awareness rates of the environmental and human health impacts of plastics and plastic waste.	Rates of awareness increase annually.

RE-CAPTURE	Number of re-capture/clean-up activities implemented.	Annual increases in the total number of activities implemented.
	Number of ocean-bound plastic waste retrieval activities.	By 2030, at least one ocean-bound plastic waste retrieval activity has been implemented in every province.
REWARD	Number of activities implemented to encourage public and private sector participation in tackling plastic pollution.	Annual increases in the total number of activities implemented.
	Number of voluntary pledges.	Annual increases in the total number of voluntary pledges.

## 4 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

### 4.1 INTERNATIONAL

Growing global awareness of the negative environmental and human health aspects of plastic has prompted a wave of actions intended to reduce plastic production and consumption and minimise the leakage of plastic waste into the marine and terrestrial environments.

Globally between 1991 and 2016, an estimated 36 national policy actions were implemented on single-use plastic bags alone, and a further 14 actions were implemented between 2013 and 2016 on the manufacture and importation of products containing primary microbeads.<sup>15</sup>

Despite the emergence of plastics and marine litter as an issue of international concern, there is currently no binding international agreement that is focused exclusively on the reduction of plastic marine litter or microplastics.<sup>16</sup> There are, however, other international conventions, agreements and frameworks in place that address plastic pollution within a broader remit.

Binding international conventions that are relevant to the issue of plastic pollution include the United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea (UNCLOS), International Maritime Organization Convention on Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter (London Convention), the Protocol to the London Convention (London Protocol) and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex V.

The *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020-2030)* is aligned to these international conventions (see Table 10), all which have been ratified by Vanuatu.

**Table 10. Alignment to international conventions.**

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA ,1982 (UNCLOS) <sup>17</sup>
Article 192: States have the obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment.
Article 194: States shall take, individually or jointly as appropriate, all measures... to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from any source.
Article 207: States shall adopt laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from land-based sources, including rivers, estuaries, pipelines and outfall structures, taking into account internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.
Article 210: States shall adopt laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment by dumping.
Article 211: States... shall establish international rules and standards to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from vessels.
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION CONVENTION ON PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION BY DUMPING OF WASTES AND OTHER MATTER, 1972 (LONDON CONVENTION) <sup>18</sup>
Article 1: Contracting Parties shall individually and collectively promote the effective control of all sources of pollution of the marine environment, and pledge themselves especially to take all practicable steps to prevent the pollution of the sea by the dumping of waste and other matter that is liable to create hazards to human health, to harm living resources and marine life, to damage amenities or to interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea.
THE 1996 PROTOCOL TO THE LONDON CONVENTION (LONDON PROTOCOL) <sup>19</sup>



Article 2: Contracting Parties shall individually and collectively protect and preserve the marine environment from all sources of pollution and take effective measures, according to their scientific, technical and economic capabilities, to prevent, reduce and where practicable eliminate pollution caused by dumping or incineration at sea of wastes or other matter. Where appropriate, they shall harmonize their policies in this regard.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS (MARPOL), ANNEX V <sup>20</sup>

Regulation 3.1 (a) the disposal into the sea of all plastics, including but not limited to synthetic ropes, synthetic fishing nets, plastic garbage bags and incinerator ashes from plastic products which may contain toxic or heavy metal residues, is prohibited.

The *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020-2030)* will also assist Vanuatu in meeting its commitments to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), notably Goal 14 (Life below water) which seeks to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.<sup>21</sup>

**Table 11. Alignment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.**

#### UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS <sup>21</sup>

Goal 6.3: By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimising release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.

Goal 8.4: Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead.

Goal 12.5: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

Goal 14.1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.

Goal 14.2: By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans

In addition to the above, there are a significant and growing number of international programmes and partnerships that seek to address the issue of plastics in the environment, notably the Commonwealth Blue Charter and the Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance, of which Vanuatu is Co-chair.

**Commonwealth Blue Charter and Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance (CCOA):** The Commonwealth Blue Charter is an agreement by all 53 Commonwealth countries to actively co-operate to solve ocean-related problems and meet commitments for sustainable ocean development.<sup>22</sup> The CCOA is one of ten Action Groups established under the Commonwealth Blue Charter.

Countries that sign up to join the CCOA are encouraged to commit to ambitions around the ban of the sale and manufacture of microbeads in rinse-off cosmetic and personal care products, reduction of single-use plastic carrier bags and the elimination of avoidable single-use plastic waste. As Co-chairs of the CCOA, Vanuatu and the United Kingdom have also been working together to encourage CCOA members to sign up

to (and implement) the London Protocol, the UN Clean Seas campaign, and the Global Ghost Gear Initiative as means of meeting their SDG commitments.<sup>3</sup>

**Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI):** The GGGI is a cross stakeholder alliance of fishing industry, private sector, NGOs, academia and governments focused on solving the problem of lost and abandoned fishing gear worldwide. The initiative aims to: improve the health of marine ecosystems; safeguard human health and livelihoods; and protect marine animals from harm.<sup>23</sup>

**Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML):** The GPML is a multi-stakeholder partnership that provides a unique mechanism to bring together all actors working to prevent marine litter and microplastics, with the aim of sharing knowledge and experience and advancing solutions to this pressing global issue. Its mission is to protect the global marine environment, human wellbeing and animal welfare by addressing the global problem of marine litter, in line with Target 14.1 of the SDGs.<sup>24</sup>

**Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA):** The GPA is designed to be a source of conceptual and practical guidance to be drawn upon by national and/or regional authorities for devising and implementing sustained action to prevent, reduce, control and/or eliminate marine degradation from land-based activities. The GPA aims at preventing the degradation of the marine environment from land-based activities by facilitating the duty of States to preserve and protect the marine environment.<sup>25</sup>

**Regional Seas Programme:** The Regional Seas Programme is a United Nations partnership that aims to address the accelerating degradation of the world's oceans and coastal areas through the sustainable management and use of the marine and coastal environment, by engaging neighbouring countries in comprehensive and specific actions to develop Action Plans to protect their shared marine environment. There are currently 18 Regional Seas Programmes, seven of which are administered by UN Environment.<sup>26</sup>

## 4.2 PACIFIC REGIONAL

The Pacific region has been active in efforts to tackle plastic waste and plastic marine litter. In 2019, eight Pacific island countries (including Vanuatu) had banned some single-use plastics, and a further six countries had announced their intention to ban plastics and to adopt other measures to ameliorate plastic pollution.<sup>27</sup>

At the 2017 Pacific Island Forum Leaders Meeting, a commitment was made to fast-track the development of policies to ban single-use plastic bags, plastic and Styrofoam packaging and commit to action on addressing marine pollution and marine debris.<sup>28</sup> At the 2018 Pacific Island Forum Leaders Meeting waste was again recognised as a critical issue and commitment was reaffirmed to eliminate marine litter.<sup>29</sup>

The key Pacific regional framework for waste management, *Cleaner Pacific 2025*,<sup>30</sup> identifies marine litter as a priority concern and the *Pacific Regional Marine Litter Action Plan*,<sup>31</sup> sets out the policy context and key actions to minimise marine litter across the Pacific region. Both documents have been endorsed by Vanuatu in its capacity as a member country of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

The central Pacific regional convention that is relevant to the issue of plastic pollution is the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region (Noumea Convention) to which Vanuatu is party.

**Table 12. Alignment to Pacific regional frameworks and policies.**

<b>THE CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION, 1986 (NOUMEA CONVENTION)</b> <sup>32</sup>
Article 5: The Noumea Convention obligates parties to protect, manage and endeavour to take all appropriate measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution and to ensure sound environmental management and development of natural resources, using the best practicable means at their disposal and in accordance with their capabilities.
<b>CLEANER PACIFIC 2025: PACIFIC REGIONAL WASTE AND POLLUTION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY</b> <sup>30</sup>
The four strategic goals of Cleaner Pacific 2025 are to: prevent the generation of wastes and pollution; recover resources from waste and pollutants; improve management of residuals; and to improve monitoring of the receiving environment.
<b>PACIFIC REGIONAL MARINE LITTER ACTION PLAN (2018-2025)</b> <sup>31</sup>
The Action Plan proposes 13 strategic actions to combat marine litter that comprise activities around: building a policy and regulatory framework; shipping and vessel operations; fishing vessel waste; cruise ship waste; take-away food and beverage containers; plastics and other waste materials; awareness and action; tourist focused awareness and action; tourist enterprise waste; catching water-borne litter; and coastal clean-ups.

### 4.3 NATIONAL

The Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy is well aligned to other national strategies, policies and action plans that are in place and supports the vision of the *National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030* for a stable, sustainable and prosperous Vanuatu.<sup>33</sup>

**Table 13. Alignment to national legislation, strategies and policies.**

<b>CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU (2013)</b> <sup>34</sup>
7 (d). Every person has a fundamental duty to “protect the Republic of Vanuatu and to safeguard the national wealth, resources and environment in the interests of the present generation and of future generations.”
<b>VANUATU 2030: THE PEOPLE’S PLAN</b> <sup>33</sup>
SOC 1.7 Safeguard the traditional economy as a valued means of contributing to the wellbeing of the population and complementing the formal economy.
SOC 3.3 Promote healthy lifestyle choices and health seeking behaviour to improve population health and well-being.
ENV 1.3 Reduce reliance on food imports through import substitution for food products that can be produced domestically.
ENV 2.4 Reduce waste and pollution through effective waste management and pollution control.
ENV 4.2 Protect vulnerable forests, watersheds, catchments and freshwater resources, including community water sources.

ENV 5.1 Protect biodiversity and ecosystems and their significant role in our culture, society and environment.

ENV 5.5 Increase awareness on biodiversity conservation and environmental protection issues across government and publicly.

ENV 5.6 Enhance environmental monitoring, evaluation and research with relevant, open and transparent data sharing among relevant agencies.

ECO 3.6 Improve the provision of government services in rural areas.

ECO 4.3 Increase production and processing of niche commodities, and value addition to commodities in which Vanuatu enjoys a comparative advantage.

ECO 4.4 Improve and expand the range of sustainable tourism products and services throughout Vanuatu and strengthen links to local production.

ECO 4.9 Strengthen dialogue between government and the private sector, and enact a robust governance framework for effective partnerships.

#### **VANUATU NATIONAL OCEAN POLICY (2016) <sup>35</sup>**

Policy Action 3.2.5.1: Conserve and enhance the overall quality of the marine environment through protection, maintenance or restoration of natural and physical features, processes and biological diversity including through traditional management systems.

Policy Action 3.2.5.5: Reduce the impact of all sources of pollution (including land-based, solid waste, shipwrecks and shipping pollution) on the marine environment.

Policy Action 3.2.6.2: Ensure that activities undertaken in the marine environment meet all relevant international and regional standards and national legislation requirements and do not cause environment damage or harm to social and economic values.

#### **VANUATU SUSTAINABLE TOURISM POLICY (2019 – 2030) <sup>36</sup>**

GOAL 1: To develop and manage a sustainable and responsible tourism industry.

GOAL 2: Visitors connect with Vanuatu's environment, culture and its people.

GOAL 3: Sustainable and responsible tourism products and services developed, supported, and marketed to attract responsible high-value tourists.

GOAL 4: Tourism that enhances, conserves and protects the environmental and cultural resources of Vanuatu.

GOAL 5: Sustainable and responsible tourism brings improved income and well-being for Vanuatu and its people.

#### **VANUATU NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (2016–2030) <sup>37</sup>**

PO 1.5: Protect biodiversity and ecosystems and their significant role in our culture, society and environment.

PO 2.3: Protect vulnerable forests, watersheds, catchments and freshwater resources, including community water sources.

PO 3.1: Reduce waste and pollution through effective waste management and pollution control.

PO 3.2: Review and implement the National Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan.

PO 3.3: Establish incentive schemes that implement the polluter pays principle by encouraging cleaner production and waste recovery.

PO 7.2: Promote participation of individuals, CSOs, and the private sector in environmental protection through fiscal incentives and voluntary agreements.

#### **VANUATU CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION POLICY (2016-2030) <sup>38</sup>**

7.5.2: Prioritise green growth and low carbon development by striving to follow sustainable consumption and production patterns.

#### **VANUATU NATIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AND POLLUTION CONTROL STRATEGY (2016-2020) <sup>39</sup>**

Objective 4.1: To reduce the amount of waste generated and landfilled.

Objective 5.1: To implement effective waste collection and disposal throughout Vanuatu and limit the impact of waste and pollution on urban areas and ecosystems.

Objective 7.1: To increase public awareness on their waste management responsibilities.

Objective 7.2: To introduce and enhance community participation on waste management.

#### **VANUATU NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN (2018-2030) <sup>40</sup>**

Focus Area CME1: Reduce major threats to Vanuatu's coastal and marine ecosystems such overharvesting, reclamation, unsustainable tourism development, natural disaster impacts, climate change impacts, river dredging and pollution.

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## ANNEX A - COSTED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### 1 CONTEXT

This Costed Implementation Plan is built around the five strategic goals and 24 strategic actions identified in the *Vanuatu National Plastics Strategy (2020 -2030)*.

A five-year period is used for the initial Implementation Plan to align with the establishment period of the strategy where it is anticipated much of the work in developing frameworks and establishing mechanisms would occur. These would secure ongoing resources, such as the Container Deposit System (CDS), Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) mechanisms, and plastic and MARPOL levies.

Most of the regional projects that will potentially resource this Implementation Plan also have their main operation periods over the next five years including the Pacific Oceans Litter Project (POLP), IUCN Plastic Free Islands, PacWaste Plus and AfD Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific.

A five-year period would also coincide with a mid-term review of the Strategy where any changes incorporated in that process could also be made in a second stage Implementation Plan for the remaining five years. Other related strategies and plans, both national and regional have similar review periods and could also then be aligned with the next Implementation Plan.

The following five-year period (2025-2030) is then expected to be less reliant on donor funding for established components of the Strategy which should have built up greater sustainability in operational funding, ongoing monitoring mechanisms and human resourcing through the CDS, EPR and levy systems.

These Actions have been used to identify 81 separate activities which are to be implemented in support of Vanuatu's aims to Reduce, Replace, Remediate, Recapture and Reward action on marine plastic in the five-year period from 2020 to 2025.

The tailored activities presented in the Implementation Plan have been identified through field work, analysis and interviews with a variety of stakeholders from Vanuatu and across the region, as well as internationally. As such, these activities represent global best-practice responses needed to take effective action on marine plastic.

The preliminary cost of USD 4,647,000 to implement these activities is only advisory, however they are based on experience developing, implementing and reviewing regional and bilateral waste projects in the Pacific and internationally.



## 2 PRE-IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Execution of the Implementation Plan will be the primary responsibility of the Vanuatu Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation assisted by the Oceans Affairs Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Significant support, expertise and coordination would be required from Vanuatu Customs and Inland Revenue Service, the Department of Finance and Treasury and a host of other government agencies. Considerable co-ordination with the private sector (internationally and nationally), the community, NGOs and international agencies will be required.

In preparation for this stage it should be recognised that the human resources, expertise and experience required to undertake the Implementation Plan is above and beyond the normal day to day activities of the chief executing agencies and the equivalent of a major stand-alone project.

It is therefore recommended that a Plastics Action Committee is established to plan the launch of the Implementation Plan, identify additional resources, secure timelines and agree on governance mechanisms. Long term TA support embedded within the main implementing agencies to assist in the launch of the Implementation Plan would be of significant benefit.

A provisional funding plan has also been developed to identify potential resources from international and national bodies/instruments which the Government of Vanuatu may be able to access.

### 3 IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

#### 3.1 DETAILED ACTIVITIES

Strategic Goal One: Reduce the Volume of Plastic Entering the Waste Stream								
Strategic Actions	Activities	Indicators	Time Frame					
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
1.1 Prevent single use plastic consumer products from entering Vanuatu through the continued introduction of bans on the importation, sale and manufacture of avoidable plastic products.	1.1.1 Develop a Vanuatu plastic survey report to track plastic reduction targets modelled on similar approaches (such as the Australian Plastics Recycling Survey).	Plastic targets tracked.  Report results provided annually.						
	1.1.2 Continue to adopt policies and regulations that ban, place fees or take other measures to eliminate 'avoidable' single use plastics.	% of total Imported plastics reduces annually.						
	1.1.3 Investigate costs and benefits of banning small single use beverage containers made of plastic or containing plastic (liners, straws, plastic tabs etc.).	Costs and benefits determined.						
1.2 Discourage the importation of plastic films ('tragic plastic') by	1.2.1 Identify priority tragic plastic items through waste and environmental surveys (litter and beach monitoring).	Targeted tragic plastic identified.						

imposing a customs levy on plastic packaged junk food.	1.2.2 Develop a system with customs to identify and impose tariffs on tragic plastic using similar UK approaches.	Tariffs applied.					
	1.2.3 Establish timelines and metrics for implementation of a tragic plastic reduction system.	% of targeted tragic plastic falls.					
1.3 Encourage the importation of products that do not utilise plastic packaging by reducing tariffs on non-plastic packaged consumer items.	1.3.1 Conduct a survey of targeted plastic packaged products that have alternate packaging options (aluminium, steel, paper/cardboard or glass).	Alternatives to plastic packaging identified.					
	1.3.2 Develop a system with customs to reduce tariffs on non-plastic packaged consumer items.	% of alternative packaging (metal, paper, glass) increases.					
1.4 Incentivise the collection of waste plastics through expanding the remit of container deposit system CDL) to include additional plastic types.	1.4.1 Investigate the benefit of including different types of plastic beverages, containers and their caps/lids within the planned container deposit system.	% of alternative packaging (metal, paper, glass) increases.					
	1.4.2 Conduct a targeted survey on the benefits and costs of including 'legacy' plastic beverage containers within the CDL system.	Costs for including legacy beverage containers costed %.					
	1.4.3 Provide initial seed funding to initiate the early capture and removal of plastic beverage containers and their caps from the environment.	Fast tracked removal (12 months) of plastic beverage containers and lids from the marine environment.					
1.5 Prevent the leakage of microplastics into the marine environment through the	1.5.1 Conduct preliminary surveys in Vanuatu identifying products and materials containing microplastics and oxo-degradable plastics.	Microplastic and oxo-degradable plastics identified.					

introduction of bans on consumer products containing primary microplastics and oxo-degradable plastics.	1.5.2 Identify alternative products or practices with an emphasis on locally produced plastic free items.	% of alternative products/practices increases.					
	1.5.3 Develop position papers, policies and regulations to phase in bans, place fees or other measures to eliminate microplastics and oxo-degradable plastics.	% of microplastics and oxo-degradable decreases.					
1.6 Reduce the use of single use plastics by cruise liners and fishing vessels in Vanuatu waters through agreements for plastic free tourism and enhanced fisheries observer programs.	1.6.1 Conduct baseline studies on the single use plastic usage by cruise liners and fishing vessels in Vanuatu waters and identify non plastic alternatives.	Single use plastic use by cruise liners and fishing vessels identified.  Non-single use plastics alternatives identified.					
	1.6.2 Implement education and outreach programs for cruise liners and fishing vessels (recreational, fishing association based and fishing cooperatives) and enter into industry agreements to minimise single use plastics, engage non-plastic alternatives and best management practices in preventing the loss of any plastics into the ocean.	Number of cruise liners and fishing vessels provided with education and outreach.  Number of cruise liners and fishing vessels with agreements in place (to minimise single use plastic/utilise alternatives).					

	1.6.3 Develop and strengthen Implementation of waste minimisation and proper waste storage at sea, and of disposal at port reception facilities, in order to minimise incidents of sea dumping of plastics.	Number of cruise liners and fishing vessel waste audits conducted.  Annual decrease in non-compliance with MARPOL V.					
	1.6.4 Build capacity to monitor and enforce (1) national and local legislation, and compliance with requirements of MARPOL Annex V and other international instruments/agreements.	Number of officers assigned for enforcement and monitoring.  Number of training events provided to officers on MARPOL V and plastics.					
	1.6.5 Standardise and enforce fines against ships that do not maintain garbage logs, garbage management plans or post Annex V placards.	Number of MARPOL audits conducted with a focus on Annex V and plastics.  % compliance recorded for garbage logs, garbage management plans or post Annex V placards.					
1.7 Reduce avoidable plastic waste by improving the quality and safety of imported plastic products.	1.7.1 Identify and adopt suitable quality and safety standards for plastic products to minimise avoidable plastic waste generation (following Australian, New Zealand, UK or equivalent methods).	Quality standards for application in Vanuatu Identified.					
	1.7.2 Improve product labelling (including an explanation of recycling/resin identification codes) to facilitate proper disposal methods (including recycling labels and 'end of life' options).	Product labelling (by importers/companies) introduced.					

	1.7.3 Monitoring of low-quality plastics conducted.	% of plastics not meeting quality standards falls annually.						
1.8 Phase-out use of avoidable plastic fishing equipment including nets, ropes, traps, lines, fish aggregating devices and bait bags.	1.8.1 Conduct education and outreach campaigns to promote the use of technologies that reduce plastic content in fishing equipment and/or best management practices of fishing equipment containing plastic.	Number of fishing vessels provided with education and outreach.						
	1.8.2 Develop and promote use of fishing gear modifications or alternative technologies to reduce the use and loss of plastics and/or its impacts as ALDFG.	Number of fishing vessels using alternatives increases and loss to the environment decreases.						
	1.8.3 Monitor the presence of avoidable plastic fishing equipment through boat and beach surveys.	% of avoidable plastic fishing equipment decreases on boats and beaches						

Strategic Goal Two: Replace Plastic with Locally Produced Alternatives								
Strategic Actions	Activities	Indicators	Time Frame					
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
2.1 Stimulate the local economy through the active promotion of locally produced sustainable alternatives to targeted plastic products.	2.1.1 Develop a financial support scheme to support development of locally produced alternatives	Support scheme developed.  Number of targeted plastic products replaced (with local alternatives).						
	2.1.2 Identify sources of support to develop and test the business case and technical viability.	Amount of technical support provided.  Number of business cases tested.						
	2.1.3 Provide linkage to successful existing examples of alternative products and practices as a source of mentoring.	Number of linkages provided and utilised.						
2.2 Support businesses in Vanuatu to transition to plastic-free or zero waste models.	2.2.1 Develop collaborative industry partnerships (chamber of commerce, waste management & recyclers association) with government programmes and local organisations to assist in transition.	Industry partnership project developed.						

	2.2.2 Businesses with banned plastic stockpiles supported through alternative utilisation, re-export or other.	Stockpiles quantified and options identified.				
	2.2.3 Support the container deposit systems in removing plastic beverage containers/lids from the environment in all provinces.	Identify areas of support to the CDL system to maximise the removal of plastic containers.				
	2.2.4 Investigate the potential use of plastic lumber as a circular economy product to replace other plastic imports and utilise collected tragic and banned plastics.	Technical and business case developed and tested.				
2.3 Implement pilot projects that replace high-volume single use plastics with locally produced alternatives.	2.3.1 Investigate the potential for non-plastic (aluminium cans or glass bottles) water container replacement of single use plastic bottles based on cruise liner interest to be supplied.	Industry supported in Investigating the business case and technical merit.				
	2.3.2 Develop a pilot project to replace plastic pallet wrap and strapping with non-plastic alternatives or systems.	Replacement systems identified and trialled.				
	2.3.3 Develop a Vanuatu shopping bag project using non-plastic & traditional designs to replace next generation polyethylene shopping bags.	Shopping bag pilot supported.				
	2.3.4 Investigate the replacement of plastic peanut bags and plastic twine with non-plastic items.	The viability of a replacement system tested.				



### STRATEGIC GOAL THREE: REMEDIATE THE LEAKAGE OF PLASTIC WASTE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	TIME FRAME				
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
3.1 Reduce the prevalence of dumping and burning through expanding national waste collection coverage and controlled disposal sites that includes domestic ports, wharves and shipping.	3.1.1 Expand the prepaid bag systems for Port Vila (yellow bag) and Luganville (red Bag) in urban and peri-urban areas and introduce the system to Lenakal.	% Urban collection coverage increased.					
	3.1.2 Conduct an operational and financial systems review of the current pre-paid bag operations to improve access to the collection system through improved affordability.	Increased affordability/system coverage.					
	3.1.3 Support private sector services in expanding waste collection services that integrate with the public waste collection systems.	Increased private sector collection systems.					
	3.1.4 Support improvements to current landfills/dumpsites to prevent the burning and loss of plastics to the environment, establish a controlled waste disposal facility in each province and central disposal points at all major island centres.	Reduced loss and burning of plastics at landfills, dumpsites and at central locations in major islands.					

	3.1.5 Develop tailor-made small-scale island/village level waste management systems for collection, reuse, recycling and disposal.	Reduction in plastic lost to the environment or burnt.					
	3.1.6 Provide adequate, accessible, and affordable reception facilities for shipping, boating and transport waste in ports, marinas and small-scale harbors that are operationally connected to council and province-based waste management systems.	Reduced loss of plastics from shipping.					
	3.1.7 Strengthen national, municipal/local capacities for managing plastic wastes related to natural disaster events that can produce marine debris.	Reduced loss of plastics from natural disasters.					
3.2 Reduce littering behaviour through the installation of covered waste receptacles at identified litter hotspots.	3.2.1 Conduct a survey to determine locations requiring waste receptacles on a priority basis (litter levels/proximity to the coast and waterways) in each province.	Locations for waste infrastructure identified.					
	3.2.2 Provide adequate covered waste and recycling receptacles in public areas on a priority basis.	Reduced littering in priority public areas.					
	3.2.3 Ensure placement of adequate trash, cigarette and recycling receptacles for visitors as they leave the beaches and coastal areas.	Reduced littering in beach and coastal areas.					
	3.2.4 Provide adequate collection and removal services of solid wastes at key collection points to ensure plastic waste is contained.	Reduced littering at key waste collection points.					

3.3 Deter littering behaviour through the enforcement of fines and penalties.	3.3.1 Engage waste management and social scientists to work with NGOs, law enforcement and regulatory authorities to reduce littering behaviour in the community, business sector and government.	Decreased littering behaviour.					
	3.3.2 Building capacity through assigning additional officers to each municipal and provincial areas to provide education, outreach activities and enforcement to reduce littering and dumping behaviour.	Decreased littering behaviour.					
	3.3.3 Support enforcement efforts on plastics through education and training judicial officials, magistrates, enforcement officers, fisheries observers and others on the importance of plastic waste management and prevention of marine plastics.	Increase in legal action against offenders.					
	3.3.4 Introduce a community-based beach and park warden pilot to patrol plastic hotspot locations and to work with the community and businesses on reducing trash and litter.	Reduced littering at hotspots.					
	3.3.5 Consider introduction of plastic hotspot clean-up penalties and attendance of education and outreach events in place of fines for littering.	Reduced littering at hotspots.					

3.4 Shift normative waste and consumption behaviours by increasing public awareness on the environmental and health impacts of improperly managed plastic waste.	3.4.1 Expand/revise existing public awareness and education programs to include plastic waste and usage issues and address public perceptions about the impacts of improper waste management and the creation of marine plastic.	Improved awareness of issues on marine plastic through public surveys.  Decreased littering.					
	3.4.2 Conduct education and outreach campaigns (primary/secondary schools and adult groups) targeting a wide spectrum of community members, businesses and government.	Improved awareness of issues on marine plastic in school students and targeted adult groups.  Decreased littering and improved recycling.					
	3.4.3 Produce educational materials (primary/secondary schools and adult groups) to help modify public perceptions of littering and its impacts – to also promote litter free events litter free public areas, parks, schools and businesses.	Improved awareness of issues on marine plastic in school students and targeted adult groups.  Decreased littering and improved recycling.					
	3.4.4 Provide cruise ship passengers outreach materials on the plastic waste issues and impacts associated with their transport and preferred non-plastic alternatives.	Improved awareness of issues on marine plastic in tourists.  Decreased littering and improved recycling.					
	3.4.5 Conduct seminars, workshops and provide educational material to fisherman, the fishing industry (including observers) port users and operators on the problems and solutions associated with ALDFG.	Improved awareness of issues on marine plastic in the fishing industry.  Decreased littering at sea and improved disposal at Port Reception Facilities.					

Strategic Goal Four: Re-capture Existing Plastic Waste in the Environment							
Strategic Actions	Activities	Indicators	Time Frame				
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
4.1 Prevent ocean bound plastic waste in waterways and stormwater drains from entering the marine environment through the catchment management of plastics including installation of trash traps and booms at key ocean entry points.	4.1.1 Conduct plastic hotspot mapping in stormwater drains, gullies, waterways, coastal foreshores and similar locations.	Hotspots maps and databases generated.  Time series data collected.					
	4.1.2 Develop and implement plan to routinely clean/clear drains, ditches, culverts, gullies streams and other stormwater pathways to help prevent marine debris accumulation and flooding.	Decreased quantities of plastics from stormwater.					
	4.1.3 Identify and implement best management practices for capture of plastics in stormwater systems, waterways and other points of plastic flows, including the installation and maintenance of full trash-capture devices.	Decreased quantities of plastics from stormwater.					
	4.1.4 Develop and implement a plan to provide adequate collection, cleaning and maintenance of stormwater drains, gullies, waterways and collection devices.	Decreased quantities of plastics from stormwater.					

4.2 Recover ocean plastics through implementing an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme focused on the retrieval of ocean plastics, with a focus on plastic film ('tragic plastics').	4.2.1 Develop partnerships between packaging producers, brand owners, importers and point of sale retailers to reduce the loss of tragic plastic into the marine environment and assist in the recovery of highly littered products.	% of tragic plastic reduced in litter and the marine environment.					
	4.2.2 Develop an EPR scheme that initially targets the containment and capture of tragic plastic with future redesign to meet circular economy standards (following Australian and UK scheme).	% of tragic plastic reduced in litter and the marine environment.					
	4.2.3 Identify and seek participation in global, regional and bilateral Corporate Responsibility schemes that relates to tragic plastics in Vanuatu.	% of tragic plastic reduced in litter and the marine environment.					
	4.2.4 Consider 'fishing for litter' initiatives as part of EPR schemes to link with community and fishing interest groups to retrieve tragic and other plastics for potential use.	% of tragic plastic reduced in the marine environment.					
4.3 Implement best practice solutions for the management of collected or recovered plastics including controlled disposal, reuse and recycling (including export).	4.3.1 Identify value chains for collected plastics that are viable for processing in Vanuatu or for exporting off island using affordable backloading schemes (such as 'Moana Taka' free shipping).	No of value chains or export outcomes identified.					
	4.3.2 Investigate both closed loop (i.e. plastic bottles to plastic bottles) and open loop (i.e. tragic plastic into plastic lumber) recycling options.	Number of recycling outcomes identified.					

	4.3.3 Investigate specific and successful recycling options for collected ALDFG that have been successfully marketed throughout the world.	Number of recycling outcomes for ALDFG identified.					
	4.3.4 Conduct controlled landfilling (without burning) at the village to urban level for plastics with no reuse, recycling or return options.	% reduction in plastic burnt or dumped.					
4.4 Conduct regular clean-up activities.	4.4.1 Promote and support community-based clean-up campaigns as education/outreach events and as a marine plastic management activity.	Number of plastic clean-up events. % decrease of plastic in beach litter audits. % increase in awareness of marine plastic issues.					
	4.4.2 Conduct regular clean-ups on parks and public land, coastal areas, in watersheds and in waterways with a focus on hotspots of marine plastic accumulation.	Number of plastic clean-up events. % decrease of plastic in beach litter audits					
	4.4.3 Develop regular clean-up sites in each province and major island as reference points for ongoing environmental monitoring of plastic waste presence.	Number of plastic clean-up events. % decrease of plastic in beach litter audits. Improvement in time series studies.					

	4.4.4 Support and promote beach and underwater clean-up events with the public and private sector as part of iconic events (World Environment day, International Coastal Cleanup, clean up the world etc).	Number of plastic clean-up events. % decrease of plastic in beach and marine litter audits. % increase in awareness of marine plastic issues.				
	4.4.5 Conduct clean-ups of legacy plastics as part of disaster prevention to minimise the loss of such waste to the marine environment as a result of cyclones, floods or tsunami.	% decrease of plastic waste in post disaster events in beach and marine litter audits.				



## STRATEGIC GOAL FIVE: REWARD VOLUNTARY ACTION AND INNOVATION

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	TIME FRAME				
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
5.1 Develop and implement incentives to encourage public and private sector participation in tackling plastic pollution.	5.1.1 Collaborate with industry and government groups in developing programs for employees on plastic litter preventions and proper management, collection and disposal.	Number of industry agreements & activities.					
	5.1.2 Promote beach, park and public space 'ownership' programs with communities, businesses, government and NGOs, and seek certification through programs such as 'Blue Flag' ( <a href="http://www.blueflag.org/">HTTP://WWW.BLUEFLAG.ORG/</a> )	Number of 'ownership' agreements and certified locations.					
	5.1.3 Develop partnerships among waterfront hotels, restaurants, and businesses to promote litter prevention and adopt clean beaches.	Number of litter prevention agreements and clean beaches adopted.					
5.2 Ensure ongoing leadership and awareness on the management of plastic waste by continued engagement through global platforms and with international organisations, the business sector (including the cruise liner and	5.2.1 Continue to engage at the global and regional level on marine plastic management promoting Vanuatu's leadership through the Global Plastic Action Partnerships, Blue Charter and CCOA, Blue Pacific Leaders and others.	Number of agreements Vanuatu is active in.					
	5.2.2 Engage in greater South-South and North-South exchanges of experiences and technologies for plastic reduction, reuse,	Number of information exchanges that occurred.					

tourism sector), NGOs and the community.	recycling, and recovery options for reducing marine plastic.					
	5.2.3 Engage with global plastic companies to join ongoing initiatives or develop new ones to support Vanuatu in reducing the marine plastics impacts caused by the global plastics supply chain.	Number of initiatives Vanuatu is engaged in.  Resources received.				
5.3 Inspire and encourage national action by launching and maintaining a voluntary pledging campaign.	5.3.1 Develop a Vanuatu plastics pledging campaign for community, business and government to take action on marine plastic.	Number of pledges received.				
5.4 Reward voluntary action through establishing national awards for social circular principles/innovation.	5.4.1 Establish a national award scheme with categories for community, NGOs, businesses and government.	Number of awards provided.				

### 3.2 PRELIMINARY COSTING OF ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF INPUT	COST (USD)
1.1.1 Develop a Vanuatu plastic survey report to track plastic reduction targets modelled on similar approaches (such as the Australian Plastics Recycling Survey).	TA Support (Vanuatu wide).	80,000
1.1.2 Continue to adopt policies and regulations that ban, place fees or other measures to eliminate 'avoidable' single use plastics.	Staff/Legal Costs.	20,000
1.1.3 Investigate costs and benefits of banning small single use beverage containers made of plastic or containing plastic (liners, straws, plastic tabs etc.).	TA Support/Field Investigation (Efate only).	10,000
1.2.1 Identify priority tragic plastic items through waste and environmental surveys (litter and beach monitoring).	TA Support/Field Investigation (All Provinces).	30,000
1.2.2 Develop a system with customs to identify and impose tariffs on tragic plastic using similar UK approaches.	TA Support (national).	15,000
1.2.3 Establish timelines and metrics for implementation of a tragic plastic reduction system.	TA Support (national).	10,000
1.3.1 Conduct a survey of targeted plastic packaged products that have alternate packaging options (aluminium, steel, paper/cardboard or glass).	TA Support/Field Investigation (Efate, Santo, Tanna).	15,000
1.3.2 Develop a system with customs to reduce tariffs on non-plastic packaged consumer items.	TA Support/Staff & Legal Costs (national).	10,000

1.4.1 Investigate the benefit of including different types of plastic beverages, containers and their caps/lids within the planned container deposit system.	TA Support/Field Survey (Vanuatu wide).	15,000
1.4.2 Conduct a targeted survey on the benefits and costs of including 'legacy' plastic beverage containers within the CDL system.	TA Support/Field Survey (Vanuatu wide).	15,000
1.4.3 Provide initial seed funding to initiate the early capture and removal of plastic beverage containers and their caps from the environment.	Capital Expenditure.	500,000
1.5.1 Conduct preliminary surveys in Vanuatu identifying products and materials containing microplastics and oxo-degradable plastics.	TA Support (Efate & Santo).	10,000
1.5.2 Identify alternatives products or practices with an emphasis on locally produced plastic free items.	TA Support.	5,000
1.5.3 Develop position papers, policies and regulations to phase in bans, place fees or other measures to eliminate microplastics and oxo-degradable plastics.	TA Support/Staff/Legal Costs.	20,000
1.6.1 Conduct baseline studies on the single use plastic usage by cruise liners and fishing vessels in Vanuatu waters and identify non plastic alternatives.	TA Support/Field Surveys (Efate, Santo, Tanna).	15,000
1.6.2 Implement education and outreach programs for cruise lines and fishing vessels (recreational, fishing association based and fishing cooperatives) and enter into industry agreements to minimise single use plastics, engage non-plastic alternatives and best management practices in	Training and Workshops (x 5).	50,000

preventing the loss of any plastics into the ocean.		
1.6.3 Develop and strengthen Implementation of waste minimisation and proper waste storage at sea, and of disposal at port reception facilities, in order to minimise incidents of sea dumping of plastics.	TA Support/Field Audit(0.25 EFT).	15,000
1.6.4 Build capacity to monitor and enforce national and local legislation, and compliance with requirements of MARPOL Annex V and other international instruments and agreements.	Training & Workshops (x3).	15,000
1.6.5 Standardise and enforce fines against ships that do not maintain garbage logs, garbage management plans or post Annex V placards.	TA Support/Systems Develop, additional Staff (1 EFT).	35,000
1.7.1 Identify and adopt suitable quality and safety standards for plastic products to minimise avoidable plastic waste generation (following Australian, New Zealand, UK or equivalent methods).	TA Support/Legal Support.	15,000
1.7.2 Improve product labelling (including an explanation of recycling/resin identification codes) to facilitate proper disposal methods (including recycling labels and 'end of life' options).	Monitoring of Industry/additional staff (0.25 EFT).	5,000
1.7.3 Monitoring of low-quality plastics conducted.	Monitoring of Industry/additional staff (0.25 EFT)	5,000
1.8.1 Conduct education and outreach campaigns to promote the use of technologies that reduce plastic content in fishing equipment and/or best management practices of fishing equipment containing plastic.	Training & Workshops (x3).	15,000

1.8.2 Develop and promote use of fishing gear modifications or alternative technologies to reduce the use and loss of plastics and/or its impacts as ALDFG.	TA Support (x3).	15,000
1.8.3 Monitor the presence of avoidable plastic fishing equipment through boat and beach surveys.	Training & Workshops (x3).	15,000
2.1.1 Develop a financial support scheme to support development of locally produced alternatives	TA Support/Systems Development & Workshops (x3).	15,000
2.1.2 Identify sources of support to develop and test the business case and technical viability.	TA Support, Trial of systems, Field Survey.	20,000
2.1.3 Provide linkage to successful existing examples of alternative products and practices as a source of mentoring.	TA Support/Coordination & Networking.	10,000
2.2.1 Develop collaborative industry partnerships (chamber of commerce, waste management & recyclers association) with government programs and local organisations to assist in transition.	Model development, coordination meetings and workshop (x3).	20,000
2.2.2 Businesses with banned plastic stockpiles supported through alternative utilisation, re-export or other.	TA Support, Staff & Legal Advice.	15,000
2.2.3 Support the container deposit systems in removing plastic beverage containers/lids from the environment in all provinces.	TA Support & Targeted Field Survey.	10,000
2.2.4 Investigate the potential use of plastic lumber as a circular economy product to replace other plastic imports and utilise collected tragic and banned plastics.	Technology trial and business case analysis.	15,000

2.3.1 Investigate the potential for non-plastic (aluminium cans or glass bottles) water container replacement of single use plastic bottles based on cruise liner interest to be supplied.	TA Support to industry.	20,000
2.3.2 Develop a pilot project to replace plastic pallet wrap and strapping with non-plastic alternatives or systems.	Industry case studies and grants (EOI).	15,000
2.3.3 Develop a Vanuatu shopping bag project using non plastic & traditional designs to replace next generation polyethylene shopping bags.	Pilot Project & Business Case Development.	7,000
2.3.4 Investigate the replacement of plastic peanut bags and plastic twine with non-plastic items.	Pilot Project & Business Case Development.	7,000
3.1.1 Expand the prepaid bag systems for Port Vila (yellow bag) and Luganville (red Bag) in urban and peri-urban areas and introduce the system to Lenakal.	TA Support.	10,000
3.1.2 Conduct an operational and financial systems review of the current pre-paid bag operations to improve access to the collection system through improved affordability.	TA Support.	10,000
3.1.3 Support private sector services in expanding waste collection services that integrate with the public waste collection systems.	TA Support.	10,000
3.1.4 Support improvements to current landfills/dumpsites to prevent the burning and loss of plastics to the environment, establish a controlled waste disposal facility in each province and central disposal points at all major island centres.	TA Support/Infrastructure Development (disposal facility x6/disposal point x 12).	1,200,000
3.1.5 Develop tailor-made small-scale island/village level waste management systems for collection, reuse, recycling and disposal.	TA Support, Education & Extension, small scale civil works (x 20).	200,000

3.1.6 Provide adequate, accessible, and affordable reception facilities for shipping, boating and transport waste in ports, marinas and small-scale harbours that are operationally connected to council and province-based waste management systems.	Small scale infrastructure, additional staffing for waste collections (x12).	300,000
3.1.7 Strengthen national, municipal/local capacities for managing plastic wastes related to natural disaster events that can produce marine debris.	TA Support/Additional Resources to Councils & Provincial Governments.	180,000
3.2.1 Conduct a survey to determine locations requiring waste receptacles on a priority basis (litter levels/proximity to the coast and waterways) in each province.	TA Support/Staff Time.	7,000
3.2.2 Provide adequate covered waste and recycling receptacles in public areas on a priority basis.	Skips, Bins, Drums and ancillary equipment (x 100).	50,000
3.2.3 Ensure placement of adequate trash, cigarette and recycling receptacles for visitors as they leave the beaches and coastal areas.	Skips, Bins, Drums and ancillary equipment (x 100).	50,000
3.2.4 Provide adequate collection and removal services of solid wastes at key collection points to ensure plastic waste is contained.	Additional collection services (x 20).	10,000
3.3.1 Engage waste management and social scientists to work with NGOs, law enforcement and regulatory authorities to reduce littering behaviour in the community, business sector and government.	TA support, survey generation, workshop, field work and reporting.	30,000
3.3.2 Building capacity through assigning additional officers to each municipal and provincial areas to provide education, outreach activities and enforcement to reduce littering and dumping behaviour.	2 additional officers for Efate, 1 for Luganville, 1 for Lenakal and 1 per province plus resources.	100,000



3.3.3 Support enforcement efforts on plastics through education and training judicial officials, magistrates, enforcement officers, fisheries observers and others on the importance of plastic waste management and prevention of marine plastics.	TA support, training, workshops & reporting (x 6).	50,000
3.3.4 Introduce a community-based beach and park warden pilot to patrol plastic hotspot locations and to work with the community and business on reducing trash and litter.	TA Support, Staff Time - Volunteer Development project.	20,000
3.3.5 Consider introduction of plastic hotspot clean-ups penalties and attendance of education and outreach events in place of a fine for littering.	TA Support, staff time, legal advice.	15,000
3.4.1 Expand/revise existing public awareness and education programs to include plastic waste and usage issues and address public perceptions about the impacts of improper waste management and the creation of marine plastic.	Development & delivery of education materials, training & workshops].	30,000
3.4.2 Conduct education and outreach campaigns (primary/secondary schools and adult groups) targeting a wide spectrum of community members, businesses and government.	Expansion of Cleaner Schools Style Program with a focus on plastics with mini school activities and workshops (x 10).	15,000
3.4.3 Produce educational materials (primary/secondary schools and adult groups) to help modify public perceptions of littering and its impacts – to also promote litter free events litter free public areas, parks, schools and businesses.	Training and education materials provided and support to litter free events/staff time (x 15).	20,000
3.4.4 Provide cruise ship passengers outreach materials on the plastic waste issues and impacts associated with their transport and preferred non-plastic alternatives.	Training and education materials provided and support/staff time.	7,000

3.4.5 Conduct seminars, workshops and provide educational material to fisherman, the fishing industry (including observers) port user and operators on the problems and solutions associated with ALDFG.	Full consultancy package, TA support, education/training materials. Workshops and training. (x 10).	30,000
4.1.1 Conduct plastic hotspot mapping in stormwater drains, gullies, waterways, coastal foreshores and similar locations.	TA Support/Staff Time. Field work, database development (Efate, Santo, Tanna).	15,000
4.1.2 Develop and implement plan to routinely clean/clear drains, ditches, culverts, gullies streams and other stormwater pathways to help prevent marine debris accumulation and flooding.	Council/Provincial Government Task (additional resources).	60,000
4.1.3 Identify and implement best management practices for capture of plastics in stormwater systems, waterways and other points of plastic flows, including the installation and maintenance of full trash-capture devices.	TA Support, Guidance Material Development, Infrastructure & Equipment Costs (Efate, Santo, Tanna) (x 80).	500,000
4.1.4 Develop and implement a plan to provide adequate collection, cleaning and maintenance of stormwater drains, gullies, waterways and collection devices.	Council & Provincial Government Lead (additional resources).	30,000
4.2.1 Develop partnerships between packaging producers, brand owners, importers and point of sale retailers to reduce the loss of tragic plastic into the marine environment and assist in the recovery of highly littered products.	TA Support, Staff & Legal Time.	15,000
4.2.2 Develop an EPR scheme that initially targets the containment and capture of tragic plastic with future redesign to meet circular economy	TA Support, Concept & Model Development, coordination &	60,000

standards (following Australian and UK scheme).	Workshops, Staff Time, legal advice.	
4.2.3 Identify and seek participation in global, regional and bilateral Corporate Responsibility schemes that relates to tragic plastics in Vanuatu.	GoV engagement at critical for Ministers, Senior & Technical Officers.	100,000
4.2.4 Consider 'fishing for litter' initiatives as part of EPR schemes to link with community and fishing interest groups to retrieve tragic and other plastics for potential use.	TA Support/Project Development, Training & Field Work. (Efate, Santo, Tanna).	15,000
4.3.1 Identify value chains for collected plastics that are viable for processing in Vanuatu or for exporting off island using affordable backloading schemes (such as 'Moana Taka' free shipping).	TA Support, technical review & coordination (Efate).	15,000
4.3.2 Investigate both closed loop (i.e. plastic bottles to plastic bottles) and open loop (i.e. tragic plastic into plastic lumber) recycling options.	TA Support, technical review, production trials, coordination & reporting (Efate).	25,000
4.3.3 Investigate specific and successful recycling options for collected ALDFG that have been successfully marketed throughout the world.	Desktop Review.	10,000
4.3.4 Consider controlled landfilling (without burning) at the village to urban level for plastics with no reuse, recycling or return options.	Education & Extension Work (Outer Islands Focus).	12,000
4.4.1 Promote and support community-based clean-up campaigns as education/outreach events and as a marine plastic management activity.	Staff Time, Grants & Equipment.	10,000

4.4.2 Conduct regular clean-ups on parks and public land, coastal areas, in watersheds and in waterways with a focus on hotspots of marine plastic accumulation.	Staff Time, Grants & Equipment, vehicles & Disposal costs (x 50).	50,000
4.4.3 Develop regular clean-up sites in each province and major island as reference points for ongoing environmental monitoring of plastic waste presence.	Field visits and database development.	12,000
4.4.4 Support and promote beach and underwater clean-up events with the public and private sector as part of iconic events (World Environment day, International Coastal Cleanup, clean up the world etc).	Staff Time, Grants & Equipment (x 30).	30,000
5.1.1 Collaborate with industry and government groups in developing programmes for employees on plastic litter preventions and proper management, collection and disposal.	Staff Time & Coordination.	10,000
5.1.2 Promote beach, park and public space 'ownership' programs with communities, businesses, government and NGOs, and seek certification through programs such as 'Blue Flag' ( <a href="http://www.blueflag.org/">HTTP://WWW.BLUEFLAG.ORG/</a> )	TA Support & coordination, Staff time.	10,000
5.1.3 Develop partnerships among waterfront hotels, restaurants, and businesses to promote litter prevention and adopt clean beaches.	TA Support & coordination, Staff time. Business engagement.	10,000
5.2.1 Continue to engage at the global and regional level on marine plastic management promoting Vanuatu's leadership through the Global Plastic Action Partnerships, Blue Charter and CCOA, Blue Pacific Leaders and others.	GoV engagement at critical for Ministers, Senior & Technical Officers (x 12).	100,000

5.2.2 Engage in greater South-South and North-South exchanges of experiences and technologies for plastic reduction, re-use, recycling, and recovery options for reducing marine plastic.	TA & Regional Project Support, case studies & study tours (x 8).	50,000
5.2.3 Engage with global plastic companies to join ongoing initiatives or develop new ones to support Vanuatu in reducing the marine plastics impacts caused by the global plastics supply chain.	TA Support, government engagement, staff time & legal costs.	30,000
5.3.1 Develop a Vanuatu plastics pledging campaign for community, business and government to take action on marine plastic.	TA Support to Government to develop system, engage with stakeholders.	10,000
5.4.1 Establish a national award scheme with categories for community, NGOs, businesses and government.	TA Support to Government to develop system, engage with stakeholders.	15,000
Total Cost (USD)	4,647,000	